Train from New Delhi to Azamgarh

594. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why a train connecting New Delhi to Azamgarh has not been started so far, since independence;

(b) whether it is a fact that the only available train Kaifiat Express from Old Delhi does not have 1st A.C. for the Members of the Parliament neither its timing suits Central Government employees;

(c) whether Government propose to start a fresh train with 1st A.C. and IIIrd A.C. coaches from New Delhi Railway Station to Azamgarh in view of grievances of Members of Parliament and employees;

(d) if so, by when Government propose to do so; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU): (a) to (e) Two pairs of trains namely 4649/4650 Amritsar - Darbhanga Saryu Yamuna Express (tri-weekly) and 4025/4026 Delhi-Azamgarh Kaifiat Express are available between Azamgarh and Delhi which are considered adequate to cater the present level of traffic demand. One AC-2 tier and one AC-3 tier coach are available in Kaifiat Express which are considered adequate for the upper class passengers. Change in timings of Kaifiat Express and introduction of a train between New Delhi and Azamgarh is not feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Gauge conversion projects in Rajasthan

†595. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time-frame fixed for completion of gauge conversion projects in Rajasthan;

(b) the physical and financial progress regarding gauge conversion projects in the State of Rajasthan and the reasons for delay; and

(c) the budget provision for Rewari-Sadulpur, Sriganganagar-Sarupsur and Phulera-Jodhpur railway lines in Rajasthan, and whether this provision is sufficient for completion of these projects, if so, the details thereof?

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†*Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.*